

# NCBDDDannualreport2011

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## About the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC'S mission is to collaborate to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health – through health promotion, prevention of disease, injury, and disability, and preparedness for new health threats.



### A Public Health Approach

What does it mean to take “a public health approach”? By definition, public health focuses on preventing disease, promoting health, and prolonging life. It addresses population-level health concerns rather than individual-level health issues. Tracking and monitoring of disease patterns and outbreaks are foundational to public health. Scientific research is the basis for development of health education and outreach programs as well as policy interventions.

### NCBDDD Mission

#### Helping People Live Life to the Fullest

Through our efforts, we work to improve lives from childhood through adulthood. The mission of CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) is to promote the health of babies, children, and adults, helping them live life to the fullest. We live out our mission in important ways:

- *We use science as the foundation* to reflect the impact that birth defects, disabilities, and blood disorders can have and to show us how we can understand their causes and learn to prevent them.
- *We translate science into action* providing health information, programs, tools, and resources to consumers, health care professionals, and policymakers.
- *We collaborate with partners* to increase our impact where people live, work, and play.

learn more: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd) • 1.800.cdc.info • 1.800.232.4626

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities  
Office of the Director

